

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

Intermet Radford Shell Plant (Formerly: Lynchburg Foundry)

**1605 First Street
Radford, VA 24141
Congressional District 9
EPA ID #: VAD010063006
Last Updated 12/17/02**

Current Progress at the Site

In August 2000, EPA and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality completed a site visit of the facility to review the current status of one of the EPA Region III's high priority RCRA corrective action sites. The review of background data indicates that there has been a release of hazardous contaminant on site and that there is insufficient data to determine the extent of such release. EPA and the facility are negotiating the appropriate methodology to collect additional data, conduct an environmental investigation of the site, and implement remediation activities as required.

On March 27, 2002, EPA and INTERMET entered into an RCRA Administrative Order on Consent to conduct an environmental investigation and/or clean-up measures as necessary to protect human health and the environment. The adjacent New River Castings Facility, VAD 98 173 0930, is included in the project due to the common ownership, waste management practices and contaminant commingling.

The facility has completed an outline of its investigation activities and forwarded to EPA a description of current conditions report to establish its baseline environmental conditions.

Site Description

The Intermet Radford Foundry, Radford Plant, is located in the City of Radford, Virginia, along the New River. The site is approximately 323 acres. The facility is situated on a narrow floodplain of the New River, and the site topography slopes toward the river. The Intermet Radford Foundry has been during most of its history, a manufacturer of automotive parts and heavy construction equipment. The current facility status is a RCRA large quantity hazardous waste generator.

The Radford facility began operations in the early 1900s producing grey iron and ductile iron castings. The main hazardous wastes generated traditionally have been cupola and electric induction furnace baghouse dusts (D006, D008) and carbide slag (D003). The facility also included a pipe foundry cupola operation which was sold and discontinued operations in April, 1990. Disposal of pipe foundry cupola dust also discontinued in April 1990. A Special Foundry, used for manufacturing large castings, was closed in 1977. Current foundry operations include the Intermet Radford Foundry which utilizes cupola melting, and the adjacent New River Foundry

which uses electric induction melting. Prior to 1998, the Internet Radford foundry was known as the Lynchburg Foundry, Radford Plant. The Medium Casting Foundry became the New River Foundry through a purchase in October 1986. The Internet Radford Foundry which is physically separate from and has a different hazardous waste EPA ID # than does the New River Foundry.

Foundry waste disposal began in the 1920's and Cupola dust was land filled on the 17 acre site, and later, a combination of cupola dust and baghouse dust was land filled after settling in a slurry pond and dewatering in a holding pond. Both ponds were located in the landfill area, and the landfill and both ponds became solid waste management units (SWMUs). Subsequent to 1980, following promulgation of RCRA, a mixing area for baghouse dust was established to mix non-hazardous foundry waste with the baghouse dust prior to disposal in the landfill. In 1993, a baghouse dust treatment system, which renders the dust nonhazardous prior to generation, became operational. A RCRA closure plan, as required by a VADEQ Consent Order, was approved in July 1997 for the baghouse dust mixing area. The facility is proceeding with closure of hazardous waste management units with the VADEQ.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region 3 with assistance from the State.

Contaminants

Historical groundwater sampling data collected between 1983-1985 in proximity to an old (1790's-1982) unlined landfill exceeded action levels for cadmium and lead. In addition, the Radford facility detected a release from an underground storage tank when it was removed in 1989. Groundwater was analyzed at three wells and the action level exceeded was the State standard for TPH-Diesel at one of the wells.

Receptors

Any potentially contaminated groundwater is discharging into the New River. The source of water for the City of Radford is upstream from the facility. The closest downstream drinking water user is approximately ten miles. Since the river is not used for recreation, aquatic life is the only surface water receptor. There are no known groundwater receptors. Facility personnel and nearby residents may be exposed to soil containing lead and cadmium dust as a result of air emission releases that have occurred.

Community Interaction

EPA will include community interaction in any Federal Corrective Action Remediation.

Government Contacts

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For more information about EPA's correction action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm

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